

Evening Telegraph

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1870.

The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 1 1/2 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 2 1/2, 3 1/2, and 4 1/2. Whenever there is important news of the progress of the European war, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

THE PROLONGATION OF THE WAR.

The late effort to arrest hostilities between France and Germany which was made by Bismarck and Favre has proved a complete failure, and like all abortive peace negotiations, it has made the combatants more irate than ever. The Prussian armies will be inspired by increased zeal and energy, and the French, although they are suffering from a succession of the most terrible defeats, and although they are apparently on the point of being paralyzed by their own dissensions, avow a determination to resist to the last extremity. The step between the sublime and the ridiculous is nowhere so short as in France, and it is difficult to determine whether the present utterances of her assumed leaders will prove mere boastful and contemptible nonsense, or whether they are the precursors of wonderfully heroic deeds. A Western judge once said that a fair judgment might be formed in advance of everything except the verdict of a petit jury, but he might properly have placed the conduct of excitable Paris in a great emergency in the same category. When the allied armies against whom Frenchmen had been fighting for a score of years entered the gay capital more than half a century ago, they were greeted as cordially by the volatile populace as the American people greeted the veterans of our war in the great review which occurred at Washington in 1865; and now, since M. Favre and his associates have annulled the call for the elections of members of a Constituent Assembly, since rival parties are struggling for the control of the Government, and since the whole framework of society seems to be demoralized, who can foretell whether a heroic defense or a tame surrender is to be evolved out of this confusion?

All that is certainly known is that the war is to go on, and the Prussians are following up their success in the field by similar triumphs against the French strongholds, Toul having at last surrendered, and Bazaine having offered to capitulate if favorable terms were granted. The last French chances of successful resistance to their powerful invader are apparently being frittered away by want of unity and unselfish patriotism, and if they do not speedily receive extraneous aid in some form, nothing short of a miracle can prevent the complete domination of the German armies.

THE SIEGE OF PARIS.

The Prussians seem to have completely invested Paris, and all definite information about the situation of affairs in the ill-fated city has ceased for the present. A most important rumor, however, comes to us from Prussian sources to the effect that serious dissensions have arisen among the besieged, and that there has been fighting in the streets with cannon and musketry. The Prussian origin of this rumor, of course, entitles it to be received with some grains of allowance, but there are many reasons for believing that it is too true, and that the defenders will be obliged to contend with internal as well as external enemies. Not only is the French character wanting in those stable elements that will enable it to rise superior to adversity and to appear great even in defeat, but in Paris there are innumerable elements of weakness that will make the task of sustaining a siege an exceedingly difficult one so soon as the hour of real privation commences. The population of Paris is largely composed of restless adventurers of every description, and the French advocates of particular political ideas, whether imperialist or Red Republican, are not usually the men who will hesitate to carry out their schemes because an enemy is at their doors. On the contrary, the mob leaders, who know of no distinction between liberty and license, will most probably make use of the investment of Paris by the Prussians as an argument against any government that will attempt to place restraints upon them, and because the men who have assumed the control of the Government since the downfall of the Empire have not been able to hurl back the invaders, will argue that they are incapable of properly representing the power and the wishes of the nation. The great weakness of France and of Paris is undoubtedly the lack of a government strong enough to maintain its own authority even in the face of the enemy, and the weakness of the Provisional Cabinet has been nowhere shown to a greater extent than in the obvious concessions it has made to the untutored opinions of the mob, in spite of which must have been the better judgment of those who know how imminent the danger is, and how small the hopes of an efficient resistance really are. That the great mass of the inhabitants of Paris found it impossible to believe that the city would really be besieged, in spite of the uninterrupted advance of the Prussians ever since the surrender at Sedan, is almost certain. By giving out the news of disaster in dribbles, by depositing the Emperor, by proclaiming a republic, and by other devices, the men who have assumed the control of affairs have been able to keep the

mob quiet while the enemy was not in sight, but that Paris should actually be besieged, cut off from all intercourse with the outside world, placed upon half rations, and its beautiful buildings and magnificent works of art threatened with destruction, is a situation beyond the scope of French philosophy. Victor Hugo exactly expresses the French idea with regard to Paris in the rhodomontade which we published on Saturday when he says that "Paris is the city of cities—the city of mankind. Athens and Rome were, Paris is." No class of Frenchmen are more strongly impressed with this idea than those which compose the Parisian mob that has been the terror of every government in France since the first revolution. With this class, more than with the men who have really aided by their talents in making Paris great, the threatened destruction of the city by a foreign foe will appear as an overpowering calamity, and, unable to combat the Prussians, there is nothing more likely than that they will turn against those who have been unable to avert the impending disaster. As the siege progresses the probabilities are that the disturbances within the city will increase, and although all negotiations for peace have thus far failed signally, it is to be hoped for the sake of the Parisians themselves that the Prussians will either speedily possess themselves of Paris or else have such terms offered them as they can accept with a due regard to their own interests, and be induced to withdraw before such scenes are enacted as humanity will blush to witness.

In Paris and Berlin the streets are saddened by the numbers clothed in mourning, for the grieving relatives of the slain soldiers drape themselves in all the sombre habiliments of woe. Perhaps it is well that such a public manifestation should protest against the shedding of blood at the senseless mandate of the Corsican adventurer, but in our own war, waged for the life and unity of our land, many of our sorrowing thousands refused to darken the air with the vestments that would tell what the conflict was costing us. It was a battle that must be fought, and every hand must be nerved and every heart strengthened for the struggle, and rather than cast a passing shadow over the way stretching to victorious peace many mourners denied themselves the solace of its outward sign, and strove with quivering lips to echo the sad words of antique patriotism, "Tis sweet for our country to die."

THE NEW ENGLAND PRESS ASSOCIATION, fully appreciating the variety and reliability of the news furnished by the New York Associated Press, has just closed a contract with the latter organization, signed on behalf of the New England Association by ex-Governor Hawley, of the Hartford *Courant*, and for the Associated Press by its Executive Committee.

OBITUARY.

Hon. Robert C. Grier.

This venerable and distinguished jurist died at his residence in this city, No. 1428 Spruce street, at a late hour last evening, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. For a number of years past he had been laboring under paralysis, and at late his health was so greatly impaired that the announcement of his death will not startle the community. During the past week he has been lying in a critical condition, being almost entirely insensible, and at last he has left the scene of his earthly labors, full of years and honors, and lamented not alone by the circle of relatives and intimate friends, but by the members of the profession which he adorned at large, and by the people of the whole country which he served faithfully for so many years.

Robert C. Grier was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on the 5th of March, 1794. He was the son of the Rev. Isaac Grier, under whose watchful care he grew up, and to whom he is indebted for the careful training that laid the foundation of his education. Soon after the birth of his son, the Rev. Mr. Grier moved to Looming county, where he cultivated a farm, taught school, and preached to three different congregations. The son, as soon as he was old enough to do so, aided his father on the farm and in the school, until he was seventeen years of age, when he was sent to Dickinson College to complete his education in a regular manner. He graduated from this institution in 1812, taking the highest honors, and in so much esteem was he held for his scholarly attainments, that he was immediately offered the position of a teacher. This he held for one year, when he removed to Northumberland, where his father had established an academy. This institution achieved a high reputation, and on the death of the Rev. Mr. Grier, in 1815, his son succeeded him as principal.

His leisure moments, however, were devoted to the study of the law, and in 1817 he was admitted to the bar, and commenced practice in Bloomsburg, Columbia county. He remained in this place about a year, when he took up his residence in Danville, where he speedily acquired a large and lucrative practice, and obtained the reputation of being a sound and able lawyer. In 1835, after he had been about twenty years at the bar, he was appointed by the Governor of the State to be the President Judge of the District Court of Allegheny county, and he removed to Allegheny City, where he remained until 1848, in which year he removed to this city, where he continued to reside until his death. On the 4th of August, 1846, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States by President Polk, as the successor of Justice Baldwin. From that date up to the close of January last Judge Grier was actively engaged in the discharge of the duties of this important and responsible position. Gifted with an unusually strong constitution, he was enabled to bear fatigues that would have prostrated many men less hardy, for, with the exception of a few weeks each summer, he enjoyed no holidays, even after advancing years, and bodily infirmities weighed heavily upon him. In addition to his duties at Washington, he had charge of the circuit embracing the States of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, which necessitated his presiding alternately in this city, Pittsburgh, Williamsport, and Trenton. His eminent fitness for the position he held was shown by the terseness and clearness of his decisions and charges to juries in important cases, and by the rare instances in which his decisions as a circuit judge were overruled by the Supreme Court of the United States in banc. Among the cases celebrated over the trial of which he presided was that of Castner Hanway, who was put on trial before the Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 1851, on the charge of resisting the infamous fugitive slave law of 1850. This trial was of great importance in consequence of occurring soon after that scandalous measure became the law of the land, and it awakened a great deal of interest on both sides of Mason and Dixon's line. The United States were represented by John W. Ashmead, George L. Ashmead, and James R. Ludlow, Esq.; Maryland by Robert J. Brent, James Cooper, and R. W. Lee; and the defendant by John M. Read, J. J. Lewis, of West Chester, Theodore Cuyler, Thaddeus Stevens, and W. Arthur Jackson. The trial was opened on the 24th of November, and not concluded until December 16. The testimony developed the facts that Noah

Bulley and other slaves of Edward Gorsuch, of Baltimore county, Md., escaped and took refuge in Christiana, Lancaster county, Pa. Henry H. Kline, a well-known character in Philadelphia, was deputized to arrest Bulley and other fugitives, several being named in the warrant. He, with Edward Gorsuch and other members of the Gorsuch family, proceeded to Christiansa, and there, at the house of a man named Parker, found the fugitives. The blacks resisted; a fight ensued; Hanway was called on to aid the United States officers, but refused. In the fight Edward Gorsuch, the slave master, was killed, and others of the party were wounded. The charge against Hanway was not based simply on the fact of refusing to aid in the execution of the law, but he was said to have encouraged the fugitives to resist, and to have been a party to the combination formed for that purpose. Kline testified that when he called on Hanway to aid him he refused, and declared that the slaves had a right to defend themselves; that he declined to use his influence in drawing the slaves off when the firing commenced, and rode about on horseback while the fight was going on. The defense denied all of these allegations, and called witnesses to prove that Hanway, before the fight commenced, warned the Marshal of the danger in attempting to make the arrests, and advised him to retire.

In the course of his charge to the jury in this case Judge Grier said:—"Without at present expressing any opinion whether the present outrage is to be classed under the legal category of riot, murder, or treason, we think it due to the reputation of the people of this Commonwealth to say that (with the exception of a few individuals of perverted intellect, some small districts or neighborhoods whose moral atmosphere has been tainted and poisoned by male and female vagrant lecturers and conventions, no party in politics, no sect of religion, or any respectable numbers of character, can be found within our borders who have viewed with approbation or looked with any other than feelings of abhorrence upon this disgraceful tragedy. It is not in this Hall of independence that meetings of infuriated fanatics and unprincipled demagogues have been held to counsel bloody resistance to the laws of the land. It is not in this city that conventions are held denouncing the Constitution, the laws, and the Bible. It is not here that the pulpit has been desecrated by seditions exhortations, teaching that theft is meritorious, murder excusable, and treason a virtue. The guilt of this foul murder rests not alone on the deluded individuals who were its immediate perpetrators, but the blood taints with even deeper dye the skirts of those who promulgated doctrines subversive of all morality and all government."

"The murderous tragedy is but the necessary development of principles and the natural fruit from seed sown by others whom the arm of the law cannot reach. In making these remarks we prefer to speak the truth in plain language, without seeking for bland apophorisms or flattering terms of respect for the promulgators of principles which we very truly believe are not only dangerous to the peace, prosperity, and happiness of the citizens of these United States, and leading to the dissolution of the Union, but subversive of all human government."

But although Judge Grier took such high ground on the duty of a strict enforcement of the law, he demolished the main point insisted upon by the prosecution in the following words:—"Without desiring to invade the prerogatives of the jury in judging the facts of the case, the Court feels bound to say that the transaction which is charged with being connected rises to the dignity of treason or a levying of war."

The result of the trial was a verdict of "Not guilty," and the discharge of the prisoner. Allied with the Democratic party before the war, Judge Grier gave to the Government a firm and unquestioning support in its great struggle for existence. In his address to the jury in the piracy case of the United States vs. William Smith, which was tried before him and Judge Cadwalader, he thus treated the abstract right of secession:—"The right to secede is not to be found in the Constitution, either in its letter or its spirit. If so, it would be to declare that it is a government and constitution ordained by the people of the whole United States for all time, not a mere temporary compact of independent and sovereign confederates. Judge the tree by its fruits, and we see this miserable political heresy in the present situation of our country (we need not go to Mexico, with more than half a million of men in arms, frantically arrayed for but to compel by force of arms its acknowledgment by those whom reason cannot convince of its absurdity? Why prate about the rights of an oppressed people to change their government by revolution? Can that justify the rebellion of those who were never oppressed, but who seek to substitute a military tyranny for the purpose of conquest and oppression?"

For some years previous to his death, Judge Grier's health was greatly impaired, although his mental faculties retained almost their original vigor. But he was obliged to yield at last to the pressure of his bodily infirmities, and on the 16th of December, 1869, forwarded to the President his resignation, to take effect on the 31st of January following. On that day he took his leave of his associates on the bench at Washington, the parting scene being marked with much solemnity, and then retired to his residence in this city, to pass the remaining days allotted him in the repose which he had so justly earned.

The funeral of the deceased will take place on Wednesday, the 28th instant, the services at his late residence commencing at 11 o'clock in the morning.

Major Chauncey B. Reese, U. S. A.

Chauncey B. Reese, Major in the United States army, lately stationed at Mobile, Ala., died at that place on the 22nd inst. He was a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of West Point. He entered that institution in 1854. After his graduation in June, 1859, he was commissioned second lieutenant by brevet in the engineer corps, and was immediately ordered to Alabama, where he served until the war. He then became first lieutenant and went to Washington, where he exerted himself for the city's defense. In the Peninsula campaign he took an active part, and constructed numerous bridges, roads, and other military works. In 1862 he became captain, and was sent to the South. He took part in the siege of Fort Wagner, and was at work building defenses until February, 1864, when he became Chief Engineer to the Army of the Tennessee. He accompanied General Sherman during the whole of his march through the South, from Dalton to Atlanta, and from thence to Savannah. For meritorious services in this campaign he was successively made brevet major, brevet lieutenant-colonel, and brevet colonel. With General Sherman he also made another campaign through the Carolinas. The operations during this campaign resulted in the surrender of Johnston's army, and for services here rendered Colonel Reese was made brevet brigadier-general.

At the close of the war his rank was captain in the regular army, and he then did duty as a captain of engineers. His commission as major of the regular army was issued in 1867, and he held that rank until his death. Yellow fever is supposed to have been the cause of his death, a servant of the family having died of that disease a short time previous to the sickness of the Major. He leaves a widow, to whom he was married only about two years ago at Fortress Monroe, and a child only a few months old.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

For Additional Special Notices see the Inside Pages.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS.

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T U E S D A Y E V E N I N G , S e p t e m b e r 27, 1870,

A t 8 o'clock,

Under the auspices of the REPUBLICAN INVINCIBLES. A full exposition of local and national issues by

HON. WILLIAM D. KELLEY,

LEONARD MYERS,

CHARLES O'NEILL,

A. C. HARMER,

BENJAMIN HUCKEL.

Ladies particularly invited.

By order of the Executive Committee.

ALEXANDER P. COLESBERRY, President.

J. EBEN HASKINS, Secretary.

A. WILSON HENSZEY, Chairman of Committee on Public Meetings.

F I F T E E N T H W A R D .

REPUBLICANS, RALLY! RALLY! RALLY!

A MASS MEETING

will be held at the

SPRING GARDEN ENGINE HALL,

NINETEENTH and CALLOWHILL Streets,

THIS (Monday) EVENING,

At 8 o'clock.

The political issues of the day will be fully discussed by the following eminent speakers:—

JAMES NEILL, Esq.,

Captain GEORGE W. CURRY,

SAMUEL ORWIG, Esq., and others.

By order of the Committee on Meetings. It

A QUEER CASE.—A MAN WAS LATELY sent to the lunatic asylum for persisting in planting horse chestnuts in expectation of raising sorrel coals. There are persons at large who entertain expectations equally absurd. Those who are allured by the low prices of coal are frequently victimized. If you want good coal, patronize some reliable dealer like Mr. J. C. HANCOCK, at the northeast corner of NINTH and MASTER Streets. You there get the Honeybrook Lehigh in all its purity. Deal with him once and you become a permanent patron. 9 93 m4p

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of the IRONTON RAILROAD COMPANY, for the election of President and five Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Company's Office at Ironton, Lehigh county, Pa., on MONDAY, October 10, next, at 1 o'clock P. M. CHARLES STEWART WURTS, Secretary.

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ASSETS.

Cash in City Banks.....\$532,244 31

Cash in Company's Safe..... 1,454 32

United States Bonds..... 17,344 25

Municipal Bonds..... 19,936 34

Bonds and First Mortgage on Real Estate (worth \$1,023,323)..... \$79,029 50

\$1,000,000 00

Personally examined and certified to by

JAMES H. GOMAN,

Auditor of State.

DIRECTORS.

Robert Buchanan,

Alexander Long,

Charles H. Wolf,